

The Oral Exam

Part One

In the first three minutes you will be asked questions about yourself and you will ask your partner about his/her life. It's important to make your answers interesting and full. You have to show the examiners right from the beginning what you know.

Where are you from?

I'm a Cracovian.

I've lived in Krakow all my life.

I was born and brought up in Katowice but I live in Krakow now.

My home town is Tarnow but I'm studying here in Krakow.

I come from a small town halfway between Krakow and Zakopane.

I'm not from round here – I'm actually from Poznan.

Where do you live?

I live right in the centre of Krakow.

I live in the Old Town.

I live in the suburbs/ on the outskirts of Krakow.

I live in Podgorze, which is on the other side of the river.

I live in Nowa Huta, which is famous for its steelworks.

I live in Wola Justowska, which is a residential area on the outskirts of Krakow.

What do you do?

I'm still at school.

I've got two more years to do at school.

I'm in my last year at school.

I'm a student at the university here.

I'm studying law at the university here.

I'm doing a degree in maths here at the university.

I'm in my final year at the university here studying physics.

I'm doing a doctorate in at the university.

I've just started/ I'm just finishing my doctorate.

I'm just about to start a doctorate.

I'm doing research into

I'm a teaching assistant at the university here.

I work in a bank.

I've just started work for a German company which imports

What do you like most/ least about?

What I like most about my job is meeting different people every day.

What I like least about my job is working anti-social hours.

The main problem with my job is not being paid enough.

The best thing about my job is the excitement of doing research.

Krakow's worst problem is its pollution.

The main drawback of living here is the awful pollution.

What I really like is the historical atmosphere of the city.

I love the old buildings in Krakow.

I like the sense of history here.

Why are you learning English?

Because English is a must these days.

English is essential/ indispensable.

You can't get a decent job without English.

I need it for my job.

Because English opens doors.

What are your plans for the future?

I'm hoping to

I very much hope to

My dream is to

My ambition is to

If all goes well/ All being well, I will have finished my doctorate by this time next year and then I'll start looking for a job in

What are your plans for the summer holidays?

I haven't really got any.

I'm staying here in Krakow.

I/We plan to go to Greece.

I'm hoping to go to Spain.

I'm going mountain walking with some schoolfriends.

I'm going hitchhiking round Europe.

I'm going on a sailing holiday.

What about you?

Part Two

Discussing something together. 4 minutes

Starting:

OK. Let's get started.

OK. Let's get started, shall we?

You start. *OK.*

Shall I start? *OK./ Yes. Go ahead.*

Do you want to start? (or shall I?) *No, you do./ OK, if you like.*

Which one/picture/photo shall we start with? *Let's start with this one, shall we?*

Where shall we start? *Let's start with this one, shall we?/ Shall we start with this one?*

Let's start by seeing which ones, etc. we don't like, shall we?

Asking for each others' opinions:

What do you think?

What do you think about this (one...)?

Tell me what you think about this one.

Agreeing with each other:

That sounds OK/ alright.

That's a good idea./ That's not a bad idea.

I'll go along with that.

Why not?

Disagreeing:

But what about

But don't you think that

Why do you say/ think/ feel that?

I'm not sure it's as simple as that, is it?

I'm afraid I don't really think that's a good idea/ the best decision/ right, etc.

Moving on:

We haven't got much time. We'd better look at/ talk about the next one.

We haven't got much time. Let's get on to the next one/ photo, etc.

Finishing:

We have to come to some conclusion...

So what do we finally think?

So what have we finally decided on?

So what conclusion have we come to?

So what's our decision?

What is our final choice?

Saying you can't agree:

We'll have to agree to differ, I'm afraid.

We can't come to any agreement, I'm afraid.

Homelife

- What are people like in the area you live?
- Do you come from a large or a small family? What do you like about living in a (*large/small*) family?
- Does your family live in a house or a flat? Tell me something about it.
- What do you enjoy doing when you're with your family?
- Who are you most similar to in your family? In what ways are you similar?
- Who do you take after?

Work and education

- Do you work or are you a student? Tell me about your day.
- What do you remember most about your early school days?
- Do you think you'll use English in your future work? In what way?
- What sort of job would you like to do in the future? Why?
- Would you like a job in a multinational company? Why?

Personal experiences

- What do you enjoy doing with your friends?
- What's your favourite month of the year? Why?

Leisure time

- What do people do in their free time where you live?
- What do you enjoy doing in the evenings?
- Do you enjoy being on your own? Why?
- Do you often go to the theatre or cinema? What sort of *plays/films* do you like?
- What sports do you enjoy? Do you prefer watching or playing? Why?
- Do you ever play computer games? Why (not)?
- What sort of music do you like?
- Do you prefer live music or listening to recordings? Why?
- Is there any live music in this area? Do you ever go?
- Is your weekend usually relaxing or very busy? Tell me what sort of things you do,
- What did you do last weekend? And what about this weekend, have you got any plans?

The media

- Do you watch TV? What sort of programmes do you like?
- Do you prefer reading newspapers or magazines? What's your favourite *newspaper/magazine*?
- Do you ever use the internet to find out information? What sort of things do you look for?

Travel and holidays

- Do you enjoy travelling? Tell me about a place you've enjoyed visiting.
- Have you ever been on holiday without your family? Where did you go?
- What do you like doing when you're on holiday?
- What was your favourite sort of holiday when you were younger?
- Where would you like to go for your next holiday? Why?

Home Town

Interlocutors: Let's begin with your home town or village.

- Where are you from?
- Can you tell me something about (*candidate's town or village*)?
- What is there to do in the evenings in (*candidate's town or village*)?
- Which part of your town/village do you like most? Why?
- What kind of jobs do the people in your town/village do?
- What do you like about living there?

Family

Interlocutor: And what about your family?

- Do you have a large family or a small family?
- Can you tell me something about them?
- Have you got any siblings?

Work/Study

Interlocutor: And what about you?

- Can you tell me something about yourself?
- Do you work or are you a student?
- What do you enjoy most about your work/studies?
- What qualifications did you need/will you need for your job/for the job you hope to do?

Leisure

Interlocutor: Now, let's move on to what you do in your spare time.

- Do you have any hobbies?
- How did you become interested in (*whatever hobby the candidate enjoys*)?
- Which do you prefer more, watching television or going to the cinema? What sort of programmes/films do you like to watch?
- What kind of sports are you and your friends interested in?
- What kind of music do you enjoy most?
- How do you usually spend your holidays?
- Is there anywhere you would particularly like to visit? Why?

Future Plans

Interlocutor: Now, thinking about the future.

- What do you hope to do in the next few years?
- How important is English for your future plans?
- What do you hope to be doing in five years' time?